

ACTION

OCA 86-3608

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Routing Slip

	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OCA		X
2. DD/Legislation		X
3. DD/Senate Affairs	X X X	X
4. Ch/Senate Affairs		
5. DD/House Affairs	X	
6. Ch/House Affairs		
7. Admin Officer		
8. Executive Officer		X
9. FOIA Officer		
10. Constituent Inquiries Officer		
11.		
12.		

SUSPENSE Oct 31 86
Date

Action Officer:

Remarks:

MMM 24 Oct 86
Name/Date

STAT

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Congress of the United States

Committee on Foreign Affairs

House of Representatives

O/CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

86-3604

Tuesday, November 18 - Tunis, Tunisia
Staffdel Verstandig/Weissman/Lonie

General overview of Tunisian situation:
military, economic, political

Monday, November 24 - Paris, France
Staffdel Verstandig

Terrorism and diplomatic security

The staffdel is going to Tunisia at the direction of Chairman Fascell, who is vitally interested in North African affairs. The same three people in this staffdel traveled to Tunisia in August 1983 and reported back to the Foreign Affairs Committee on the political, military, and economic dilemmas currently facing that country. Since the trip three years ago, the worrisome trends identified by the staffdel have continued to intensify. In light of this deteriorating situation, and considering Tunisia's strategic importance as a close friend of the United States, Chairman Fascell has thought it wise to send the staffdel back to Tunisia for another look.

POLITICAL: The staffdel is interested in learning more about the prospects for political liberalization in Tunisia, as well as the prospects for a peaceful transition of power when President Bourguiba dies. The staffdel plans to arrive in Tunisia about two weeks after Parliamentary elections will have been held. The staffdel also wants to examine the pattern of political developments in Tunisia over the past three years, including the government crackdown on labor unions, opposition parties, and Islamic groups.

MILITARY: The staffdel will want to analyze the current state of affairs between Tunisia and Libya, including the recent threats voiced by Libya against Tunisia and the clandestine attempts by that country to subvert Tunisia from within. The staffdel will also examine Tunisia's relations and alliances with Algeria and France.

ECONOMIC: The staffdel is greatly concerned with Tunisia's continued economic decline and the degree to which this economic crisis intersects the political and security problems facing the country. The staffdel hopes to meet with people representing a broad spectrum of Tunisian society and public opinion, including student groups that have become increasingly restless in the face of declining living standards and political disarray.